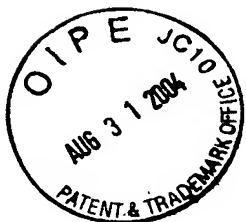


ATTORNEY'S DOCKET
075791.0110

PATENT APPLICATION
10/098,703

1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ming Xu et al.
Serial No.: 10/098,703
Filing Date: March 14, 2002
Group Art Unit: 2673
Examiner: Vijay Shankar
Title: LIQUID CRYSTAL BASED OPTICAL SIGNAL
PROCESSING

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SEP 02 2004

Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action mailed May 17, 2004, which sets forth an election of species requirement. Applicants traverse the election of species requirement, but provisionally elect Species 2, which includes Claims 1, 11-25, 27-28, and 34. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 24 is a "linking claim" that links together the inventions of at least species 1-4 pursuant to MPEP § 809.03. Pursuant to MPEP § 809.04, Applicants retain in this case all of the claims to the nonelected inventions. Moreover, Applicants remind the Examiner that "[i]f a linking claim is allowed, the examiner must thereafter examine species if the linking claim is generic thereto, or he or she must examine the claims to the nonelected inventions that are linked to the elected invention by such allowed linking claims." See MPEP § 809.04.

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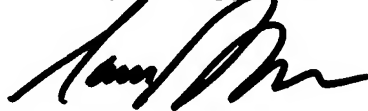
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CONCLUSION

A completed Notification of Extension of Time and check in amount of \$475.00 is included herewith. Although Applicants believe that no other fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicants



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Reg. No. 41,617
(214) 953-6581

Date: August 31, 2004

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:

Customer No. **05073**